



## **Progress report**

**ENABLING MARZINALIZED RURAL CHILDREN BETTER EDUCATION  
(COMMUNITY EDUCATION CENTER)**

**LOCATION:**

**Dangkot Village, Sdao Commune, Rattanak Mondul District,  
Battambang Province, Cambodia**

**FUNDED BY**

**Smith, Robinson, Mulgrew, and Hemsley Families  
From Perth, Australia**

**a Rotary Australia World Community Service project**



**Reported by  
Dr. Samnang ENG,**

**15, Jun, 2024**

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## **INTRODUCTION:**

Since 2017 the Smith, Robinson, Mulgrew, Hemsley families from Perth, West Australia have funded CFS education centers in 8 villages. This is mostly for school buildings.

But CFS support for children's education does not occur in isolation. Providing a school building and encouraging education is integrated into a wholistic framework of assistance for families in need. This includes income generation initiatives; providing for improved access to water, sanitation and hygiene; improving basic general knowledge, attitude and practice among rural poor; providing local networks for the protection and promotion of vulnerable women and children.

These 8 education/community centers are:

1. "Lomphat Community Education Center" completed June 2017, at Lomphat village, Oda commune, Kamrieng district, Battambang province.
2. "Prey Sanhtah Community Education Center" completed May 2018 at Prey Sanhtah village, Steoung Trang commune, Pailin Province.
3. "Samaki primary school" completed October 2019 at Samaki village, Tasen commune, Kamrieng district, Battambang province.
4. "Okoki community education center" completed May 2020, at Okoki-village, Trang commune, Kamrieng district, Battambang province.
5. "Preymonkul community education center" completed April 2021 at Prey monkul village, Otavao commune, Pailin province.
6. "Okanteangva community education center" completed April 2022 on CFS lands at Okanteagva Village, Stoeungtrang commune, Salakrao district, Pailin province.
7. "Chipang community education center" completed October 2023; Chipang village, (also servicing Plovmeas village), Plowmeas commune, Rattanak Mondul district, Battambang province.
8. "Dangkot community center for education, Dangkot Village, Rattanak Mondul District, Battambang Province, completed June 2024.

## **PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

### **Why this project?**

Cambodia Family Support (CFS) has helped many rural poor families. But there remain many rural families who desperately need assistance. We help marginalized rural poor families to live with self-sufficiency and enable them to be fully responsible for their children's education. Practically, we help in 4 focus areas (1) income generation assistance (2) Improved access to clean water, sanitation and hygiene, (3) Improved rural knowledge attitude and practice on many subjects, (4) Improved local networks for protection of vulnerable women and children.

This newest education Center is in Dangkot Village, Sdoa Commune, Rattanak Mondul District, Battambang Province. Dangkot village is at the east of Rattanak Mondul District. This village borders with Boeung Ampil Village. These villages have many internal displaced people (IDP) and returnees from Thailand.

Dangkot is a village without a government school nearby. Many of the villagers/family are poor. Local authorities inform CFS that many parents work far from home. Many children are cared for by an older sibling or by a grandparent (usually a grandmother). An estimated 75 school-aged children in these 2 villages have no chance to go to school because of there is no school nearby, their parents are poor and do not value their children's education.

The relationship between poverty and a lack of education is well-established. Often this results in a 'poverty cycle'. Not only is education important in the fight against poverty, it also allows the poor to achieve greater dignity. This is why CFS works to provide educational opportunities to create positive changes for rural poor children.

Concurrently, we help the community's poor parents through our existing livelihood development activities, increasing daily income and ensuring their children continue to attend school. The community center can also be used to provide basic health care.

#### **PROJECT TITLE:**

- A Literacy Center for Education of rural children

#### **Project objective**

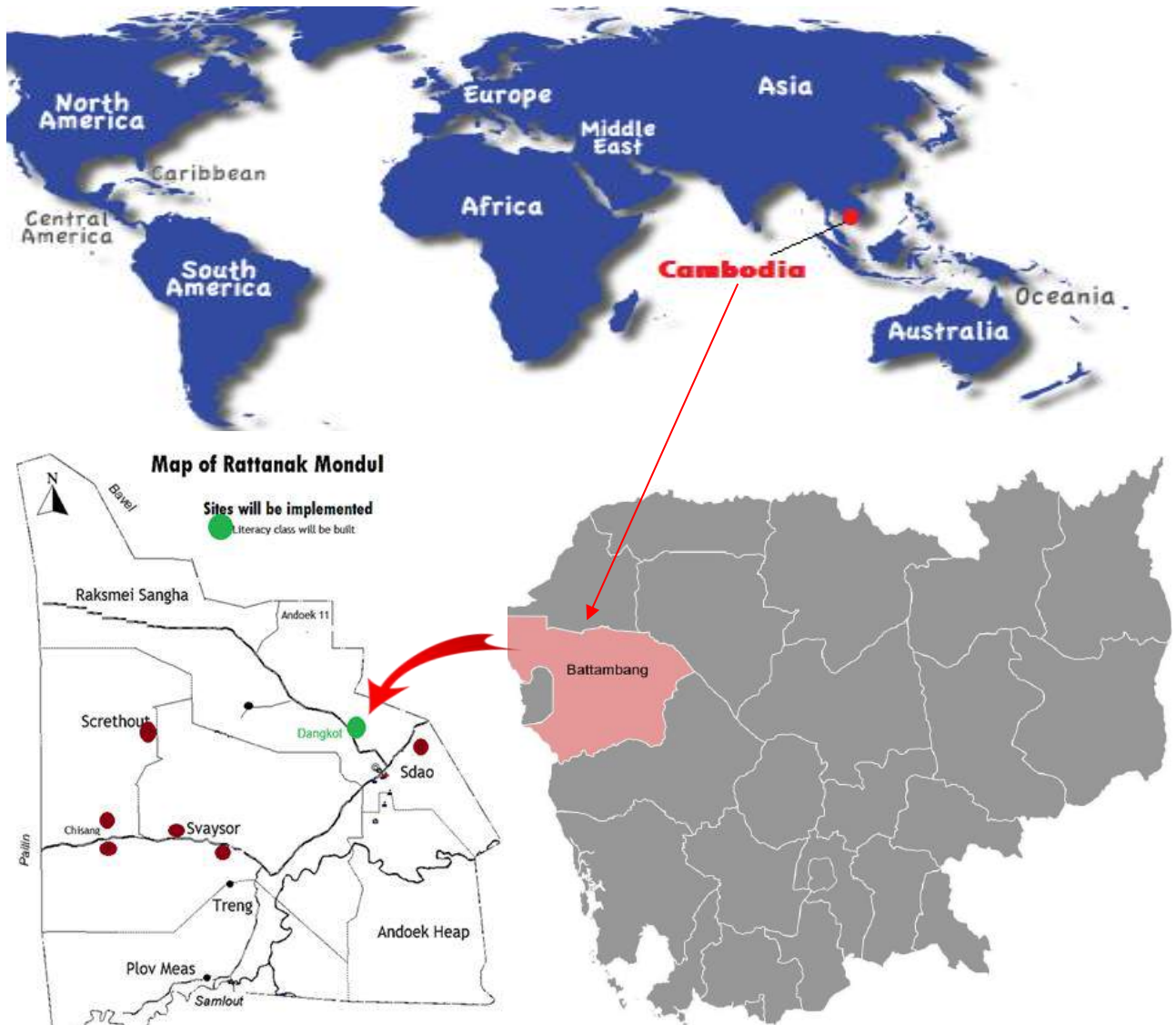
- Enabling marginalized rural children to access proper education

#### **Expected outputs:**

- At the end June 2024, a Community Center for Education will be completed.
- No less than 75 children who have not previously enrolled in school or have dropped out will regularly attended.

#### **Project Location:**

This community center for education is at Dangkot village, Sdao commune, Rattanak Mondul district, Battambang province. This school is serving a minimum of 75 children from 2 villages, Dangkot and Boeung Ampil.





## PROJECT RESULT:

After Covid-19, in especially this year 2024, Government of Cambodia, Ministry of Education approved for boosting rural early childhood education. In February 2024 CFS received requests from 3 district governors (Rattanak Mondul, Kamrieng and Salakrao) to help provide local village schools.

Official request letters from Rattanak Mondul, Salakrao, Kamrieng District Governors



Dr. Samnang Eng contacted CFS board director Dr. Vincent Keane and Helen Keane in Perth Australia to request help in raising funds for this project through Rotary Australia World Community Service (RAWCS) The same group of Australia families, Robinson, Mulgrew, Hemsley, Smith families were happy to fund one center.

CFS staff visited each location and found the most pressing need to be at Dangkot village, Sdao commune, Rattanak Mondul district, Battambang province. As usual practice, Dr Samnang and his staff visited the location for building and did local assessments to make sure that everything is going without risk during and after building. This assessment was also to make sure that local government can identify a teacher. Teacher's salary and school maintenance will be the responsibility of local authorities.







Dr. Samnang visits location for school building

As agreed between the director of CFS and local commune leader and villagers, then CFS director contact constructor for possible building:



Together with constructor, representative of villagers and community leader with Dr. Samang visited location for school building



Then, the school started for construction,



Along the process of construction, CFS field supervisor as well as CFS director visited or conducted monitoring for such school building. Please see some pictures as below:







**Process of building:**







Dr. Samnang visits construction progress







Dr. Samnang and field staff as project responsible persons for this construction was usually keeping monitoring to see the construction progress including quality of material for building

Finally, the school building is completed. The existing water tank was repaired





As the school building is completed construction, Rattanak Mondul District governor as well as teachers, parents are very happy to have that support. School inauguration and appreciation letter by district government was given to CFS.





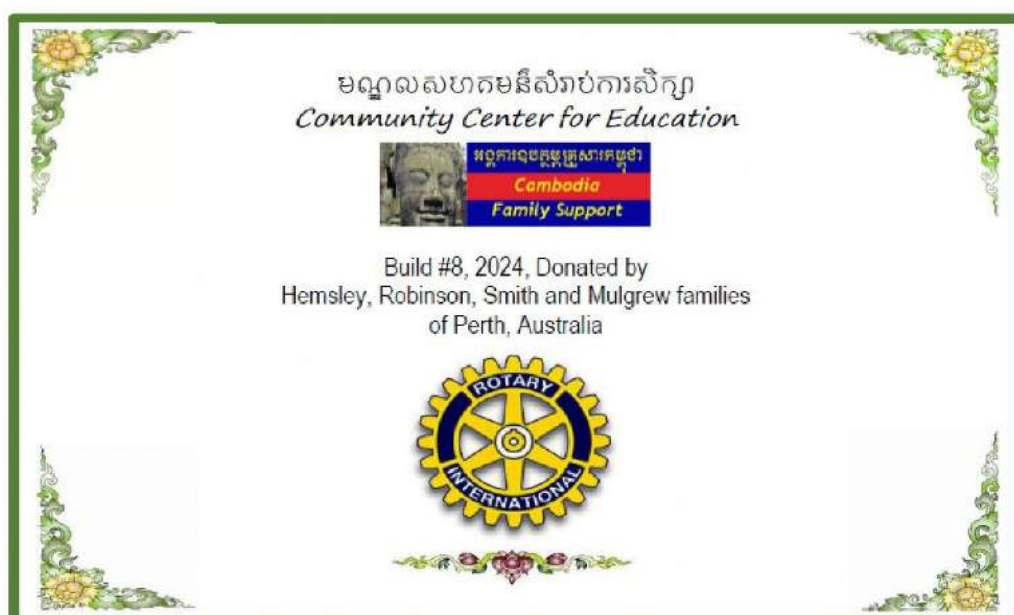
School inauguration:







Appreciation letter given to CFS donors:







The school completely built

On behalf of rural children and as well as Cambodia Family Support (CFS) and myself, I would like to say thank you very much for very generous of you all supported this school building,

Please accept all of my greatest gratitude.

Your Sincerely,  
Dr. Samnang